

The Mission Field.

WASHINGTON CITY LETTER.

Last week I forgot to say that Sister Detwiler has received and accepted an appointment in the public schools of this city. I was sorry to be deprived of her help in the mission work, yet we trust that she may have some spare time to give to the work in the way of calling on friends, etc. Pray that the Lord may soon send another to take her place.

But as long as we are not able to guarantee a regular support to our missionaries and their helpers, we need not expect them to refuse good positions when they are proffered. And yet some of us happen to know of some mission workers who are giving the very best years of their lives to the Lord's work, realizing nothing for their time and practicing the most rigid self-denial and economy besides, in order to keep the work going, while at the same time at their own option they could step into very desirable and lucrative positions.

Well, praise the Lord anyhow! The humble missionary has meat to eat that others know not of—in sight of many foes the table is prepared in the wilderness and richly spread with the hidden manna!

Blessed Savior, grant that we may be faithful. That is the principal thing.

And once more let me thank Brother McFaden. Perhaps some of you don't know that it was on account of his open heart that we were able to keep Sister Detwiler several months. He made us a very liberal donation of books, and when we had no money to pay rent with and buy food and clothes, we sold books, and thank the Lord, we still have some books on hand—a kind of emergency pile, you see,—but somehow it makes us feel somewhat ashamed to be driven to sell books every once in a while to keep the mission alive. I wish that many others would get ashamed, too. And just now permit me to speak of one way in which every member may become a missionary. And it requires no money. It is this: Utilize every opportunity of making personal calls with a special view of inviting them to attend the services. This counts for much. The pastor feels more or less reluctant in doing this. This practice of inviting friends to the meetings not only proves a blessing to the work, but it is a great encouragement to the minister. We now have a very suitable building offered us and in a fine locality, and at a very reasonable figure. It is a large store room which would make a very good auditorium, on the ground floor, with flat above

for living. Why not secure it at once and then hold meetings 365 nights in the year? Only one reason—lack of means. How easy it ought to be for a few to pledge themselves to pay one dollar per month for one year to meet this extra expense!

Well, we will patiently wait till some others want to help—whenever the time comes when our people really want to help—when they regard giving as a privilege and not a painful duty, then it will be an easy matter to carry forward the work of the Lord. Strange, too, that there are so many people who claim to be the Lord's, wholly and solely—claim to have laid all on the altar,—even claim to be sanctified—and yet they simply give the Lord, a poor, pitiful, little bit, so little that it makes one feel ashamed to mention it, while they are laying up abundantly for temporal and secular things. It always puzzles me to see people who claim to be sanctified and yet put off the Lord's cause with the bare leavings—just what they can "spare," they must be "economical," you know, while God's law plainly teaches the giving of one tenth, and even more. Question: Can we be sanctified and refuse to accept this part of the Bible? Can we read Brother Yoder's tract on "Giving" and yet refuse to accept this?

"I gave, I gave my life for thee,
What hast thou given for me?"

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CHICAGO, ILL.

It certainly gives me great pleasure to be able to tell you of the progress of our work. Our little mission is gradually on the increase. If not in numbers every night, (for they come and go) it certainly is in the spiritual sense. Those who attend regularly are becoming more interested and laying plans for better and more consecrated work.

Our prayer meeting, which is always held on Wednesday night, was led by Brother Thomas. He showed to us very plainly the mission of Christ upon earth and the teachings of the Holy Spirit. It is a blessed thought that Christ will come again. He says, "I will send you the comforter, even the Holy Spirit."

Last night, Brother Morgan, from the Moody Institute, spoke to us concerning the second coming of Christ. He showed us very clearly that the time is short, that we are now in the latter days, and that Christ is soon coming as he promised to gather his children home. How is he going to find us? With our lamps trimmed and burning, or as the foolish virgins, without any oil in our lamps? Be ye

ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh. We are trying through the help of God to prepare the people here for that last great day. So many of those who do not come are foreigners or Catholics and it is very hard to work with them or get them interested. But they are gradually getting interested and we hope soon to see our house full every night.

Brother Coffman just returned to-night from a short trip out to Lanark, Forreston, and Maryland. While he was gone I found out something of the responsibility of running a mission alone in this great city. I don't believe I was ever more tired in my life than Sunday night.

We commenced in the morning at 9:45 and hardly stopped long enough to replenish the body until 10:30 at night. Sister Gibbons preached to an attentive audience in the evening and gave us a splendid sermon as she always does.

Our S. S. is increasing. The children were at the door waiting to get in, at one o'clock. They flock in like bees in a hive and sound something like them. They are to take our places after a short time. They are the ones we are looking for. They will gradually lead their parents to our little hall and may be the means of saving them. God works in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform. It is hard to work with some of the children, but we must be patient with them. Christ says, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

We have given two illustrated sermons which were well attended and quite an interest manifested. The work is bound to go. We need your prayers and help in every line. The harvest is great and ready to be gathered. It may be one sheaf at a time, but every one counts. For who can measure the value of a soul. There are many interesting things that could be mentioned, but time and I fear a lack of space forbids us to say more this time. More anon.

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Some Encouragement—Want More.

Good for Spanogle. First money for the year came from him. Second from Junior K. C. Johnstown, Pa. The amounts are \$3.15 from the former for quarter ending Sept. 20, and \$1.29 from the latter. Who'll be the next?

R. Z. REPLOGLE, Sec'y.

Johnstown, Pa.

Better be small and shine, than to be great and cast a shadow.—Thomas Brown.